

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Yugoslavia/USSR/Satellites	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Yugoslav Policy on Refugees 2. Yugoslav Relations with Satellites	DATE DISTR.	27 Jan. 1955 25X1
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
		REFERENCES	

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1. New escapees both to and from the Satellites are all criminals. There is no reason to escape from the Satellites since the peoples and governments of those countries feel that there has been a real change in the USSR, that Malenkov is truly giving their respective governments more freedom.¹ The Satellite peoples now feel that they are free to develop as they wish within their own countries. Like Yugoslavia, they now have more independence. 25X1
2. This situation is especially true in Bulgaria and in Hungary, and less true in Rumania. The greatest changes have taken place in Hungary. In Bulgaria the people feel a great brotherhood for the peoples of Yugoslavia. Many Bulgarians have contacted the Yugoslav representatives in Bulgaria and spoken of their love for Yugoslavia. History, religion and customs all create a common bond of friendship between these two countries.
3. With Albania, the situation is different. The Albanian campaign of hate against Yugoslavia was the worst of all. Albania sent more agents into Yugoslavia than any of the other Satellites. Also, the USSR is giving Albania less freedom than it gives to the other Satellites. This is because the USSR fears that if it gave freedom to Albania it would align itself with Yugoslavia. The USSR is not interested in the political development of Albania. It is not greatly concerned over the good will of the Albanian people. It wants control of the country for political and strategic reasons. The country is small enough so that the USSR can feed all the Albanian people, if necessary. Beyond that its political development is immaterial. The important thing is control - and keeping that control out of Yugoslav hands.

Comment: Recent press reports indicate that the Yugoslav authorities are turning back current refugees from the Satellite states at the borders. 25X1

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